Approved for Release: 2018/10/01 C06626786

CONFIDENTIAL

RF

June 3, 1985

(2) Timerman bio

TO: EAO - Ralph Mariani

FM: POL - Tony Allitto JAA

SJ: Paragraph for your cable

Congressmen call on newspaper editor Jacobo Timerman

Congresswoman and Mr. Schroeder, Congressman Conyers, and an embassy political officer called on daily "La Razon" managing director Jacobo Timerman on May 30. Timerman gave an optimistic briefing on the chances for democracy to take root during the Alfonsin Administration, noting that Alfonsin is the strongest civilian president to hold that office in the 62 years of Timerman's life. Timerman also believes that the current recession in ARgentina, serious though it is, will not provoke a coup by the military, partly because there is no "new Peron" around whom the military can unite. Timerman also said that he had recommended to Alfonsin that the latter replace Argentina's current ambassador to the U.S. with someone who will deal with sectors of the U.S. other than the State Department, such as the Congress, the press, the foundations, etc. He cited as an example a University of Buenos Aires (UBA) dean who went to the U.S., presented his case to a foundation, and got the money he needed for a project at UBA that he had been unable to get in Argentina. That, Timerman said, was the kind of activist ambassador Argentina needs in Washington. Timerman claimed that Alfonsin was looking for such a replacement.

Timerman

Approved for Release: 2018/10/01 C06626786